

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COLOMB 03532 201542Z

64

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 VO-03

SS-15 CPR-01 SCA-01 PRS-01 SY-05 USSS-00 FBIE-00 /057 W

----- 100009

R 201030Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5837

INFO USUN NEW YORK 626

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 3532

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR,MV

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION IN MALDIVIAN DELEGATION TO
31ST UNGA

REF: COLOMBO 3520

1. MAUMOON ABDUL GAYOOM HAS BEEN DESIGNATED THE MALDIVIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN, THE FIRST SINCE THE PREVIOUS MALDIVIAN MISSION TO THE UN WAS CLOSED IN 1970. GAYOOM IS ALSO DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT, A POST HE RETAINS. HE WAS BORN DECEMBER 16, 1939 IN MALE, CAPITOL OF THE MALDIVES. HE SPENT SEVERAL YEARS STUDYING IN EGYPT GRADUATING FROM AL AZHAR UNIVERSITY. HE ALSO SPENT THREE YEARS AS A TEACHING ASSISTANT AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO FOLLOWED BY TWO YEARS IN KANO, NORTHERN NIGERIA AT A COLLEGE AFFILIATED WITH ZARIA UNIVERSITY AS A LECTURER IN ISLAMIC STUDIES. UPON HIS RETURN TO THE MALDIVES, GAYOOM WORKED IN VARIOUS GOVERNMENT OFFICES (A TYPICAL PATTERN IN THE MALDIVES) AND, FOR A BRIEF PERIOD, PUBLISHED A ONE-PAGE NEWSPAPER CALLED THE "MALDIVES NEWSLETTER". FROM 1975-76, GAYOOM WAS DEPUTY AMBASSADOR IN THE MALDIVIAN EMBASSY IN COLOMBO AND, WHILE IN THIS POSITION, ATTENDED THE 30TH UNGA IN 1975 AS THE NUMBER TWO IN THE DELEGATION. HE WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF A SPECIAL DELEGATION TO TEHRAN IN 1975. HE RETURNED TO MALE DURING THE GRADUAL CLOSING OF THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 COLOMB 03532 201542Z

MALDIVIAN EMBASSY IN COLOMBO IN THE SPRING OF 1976.

FOLLOWING THIS, HE WAS UNDER SECRETARY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IN CHARGE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT BEFORE BECOMING DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT. GAYOOM PREFERS TO BE ADDRESSED AS MAUMOOM. HE IS SHORT, WEARS GLASSES, HAS A SOMEWHAT RESERVED AIR, AND SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH. HE HAS BEEN FRIENDLY TOWARDS AMERICANS AND RECENTLY ASSISTED AN AMERICAN WOMAN ANTHROPOLOGIST TO GET ESTABLISHED IN THE MALDIVES. MAUMOOM FOLLOWS ISLAMIC CUSTOMS AND DOES NOT DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

2. MOHAMED MUSTHAFU HUSSAIN HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS COUNSELLOR OF THE MALDIVIAN PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UN. HE IS ALSO UNDER SECRETARY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEALING WITH FOREIGN INVESTMENTS. HE WAS BORN ON DECEMBER 29, 1947 IN MALE. AT 29 HE IS TYPICAL OF THE YOUNG, EDUCATED MALDIVIAN WHO IS QUICKLY THROWN INTO POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY. HE RECENTLY RETURNED FROM AUSTRALIA WHERE HE COMPLETED A THREE-YEAR TEACHER TRAINING COURSE. HIS ENGLISH IS EXCELLENT. OF MEDIUM HEIGHT, HE IS MORE MODERN IN OUTLOOK, POISED, AND WILL TAKE A DRINK. HE IS FRIENDLY TOWARDS AMERICANS.
REED

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING DELEGATIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976COLOMB03532
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760355-0692
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760942/aaaabjzp.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 COLOMBO 3520
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION IN MALDIVIAN DELEGATION TO 31ST UNGA
TAGS: PINR, MV
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006